

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. PG:78-13

1. Name of Property

historic Blythewood

other

2. Location

street and number 4210 Mellwood (Melwood) Road N/A not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro X vicinity

county Prince George's

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alfred Smith

street and number 4210 Mellwood Road telephone

city, town Upper Marlboro state MD zip code 20772

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 619 folio 167

city, town Upper Marlboro tax map 90 tax parcel 167 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☒ Other: Previous MHT Inventory of Historic Properties Forms

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	15
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	4
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	16
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	0
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	4
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	Total
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

7. Description

Inventory No. PG:78-13

Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary Description

Blythewood is located along Mellwood Road in a valley located between Westphalia Road and State Route 4, to the northeast of Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, Maryland. The property currently consists of a ca. 1830 main residence with domestic outbuildings and a ca. 1880 to 1940 agricultural complex. There are three domestic outbuildings, consisting of an icehouse, smokehouse, and worker housing. The agricultural complex contains ten outbuildings, consisting of a dairy barn, milk house, silo, corncrib, wagon shed, three stables, a Delco house, and machinery shed. Two tenant houses with three associated modern outbuildings are located to the east of the agricultural complex, beyond a wood fence. An associated tobacco barn is located in an adjacent field to the west of the main house along the entry drive.

The ca. 1830 residence is a two story, wood frame structure with a one story kitchen addition constructed ca. 1880. The building's exterior was significantly altered ca. 1920. Though the residence retains a four room Georgian plan, it is Colonial Revival in appearance. To the rear of the residence is a terraced garden which leads down to a fence and fallow agricultural fields. The house complex is located at the end of a paved access road which is flanked by deciduous trees and a vinyl post and rail fence.

An isolated tobacco barn is located on the northern side of the paved access road at its intersection with Mellwood Road. The tobacco barn is separated from Mellwood Road and the access road by a vinyl post and rail fence. The agricultural complex is arranged in a linear plan along an access road to the south of the residence. The gravel access road for the property runs perpendicular from the paved access road to the residence and turns to the east before it ends just past the two tenant houses. On the eastern side of the access road are two stables, the dairy barn, silo, and machinery shed. On the western side of the access road are the milk house, corncrib, wagon shed, a stable, and the Delco house. The buildings are surrounded by fallow fields with the main house complex located to the southwest. Vinyl post and rail fencing has been used to create three enclosures between the agricultural complex and Mellwood Road. Trees are planted between the main house and the agricultural complex and tenant houses, obstructing the view between these three areas.

Residence, ca. 1830; 1880; 1920

The main building is the four room Georgian plan residence, originally constructed ca. 1830 with significant alterations done ca. 1920. The residence is a two-and-a-half story wood frame structure with a brick masonry foundation. The building is clad with horizontal wood siding and the low-pitch side gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The building has two interior end wall brick masonry chimneys. The windows throughout the structure are 6/6 wood sashes with decorative louvered shutters.

The main entrance is located on the west façade and faces Mellwood Road. The entrance has a double height portico with a shed roof constructed during the ca. 1920 renovation of the property. There are six square chamfered wood supports and a simple wood frieze with no detailing. The door is surrounded by a four pane transom and is flanked by four light sidelights. The entire entryway is enclosed by a wood and glass shelter which is entered from the south.

The north façade has had multiple additions. The kitchen addition is a large wood frame room constructed ca. 1860 with a high pitch shed roof. The addition is one-and-a-half stories tall on its west elevation and one story tall on its east elevation. A scalloped bargeboard is located along the west and north facades. There is no visible chimney. On the northeast corner of the ca. 1860 addition, a small one story wood frame wing was added at an unknown date, possibly during the ca. 1920 renovation. This addition had a front gable roof and a central interior brick masonry chimney. An additional two story shed roof addition to the house is also located on the north elevation, to the rear of the ca. 1880 addition.

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The east elevation faces onto the fallow fields and terraced garden. The central rear entrance has a one story entry porch with a decorative railing, and integrated benches constructed as part of the ca. 1920 renovations. The hipped roof is supported by four paired square wood posts. To either side of the entry porch are brick stairs leading down to the basement entries.

On the south elevation is a ca. 1920 porch addition. The one story porch has a hipped roof with flared eaves. The arched openings have been enclosed with louvered shutters.

Worker Housing, date unknown

To the north of the residence is a building that is believed to have originally been used for worker housing. Its construction date is unknown. The building is a one story rectangular wood frame structure clad with wood singles. The foundation was not visible. The side gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The building has four doors on the south façade, with the central two flanked by 6/6 wood sash windows. There are no visible chimneys.

Smokehouse, ca. 1830

Located to the northeast of the worker housing is the smokehouse, which was constructed ca. 1830. The smokehouse is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation three feet in height. The upper portions of the walls are clad with horizontal wood siding. The front gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The building is entered through a wood plank door on the west façade. There are no windows.

Icehouse, ca. 1830

Located to the south of the smokehouse is the icehouse, which was constructed ca. 1830. The icehouse is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space that has been built into the hillside. The building rests on a continuous brick foundation with a combination of concrete block and brick used to create a new entrance and extension to the icehouse. The upper portions of the walls are clad with a combination of board and batten and vertical boards. The front gable roof is clad with asphalt shingles. The building is entered through a wood plank door in the hillside on the east façade. There are no windows.

Stables, ca. 1900 and ca. 1930

There are three stables located within the agricultural complex. Stable #1 is located at the northern end of the agricultural complex, adjacent to the dairy barn, and is the largest of the three stables. The building is a one story light timber frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1900. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. The stable is clad with board and batten siding and the side gable roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. A cupola is located along the ridgeline. Five stalls are located on both the north and south facades with a hay loft above. A 6 bay arcade with arched openings runs along both the north and south elevations and shelters the stalls. Each stall has a set of wood plank Dutch doors. Full height wood plank walls separate each of the enclosures. On the western end of the building is a tack room which is accessed through wood plank doors on the north and south elevations. The tack room has four 6 pane wood frame hopper sash windows.

Stable #2 is located to the south of the dairy barn. The building is a one story light timber frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1900. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. The stable is clad with board and batten siding and the side gable roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. A cupola is located along the ridgeline. Two wood plank Dutch doors are located on the north and south elevations. The stable has 6 pane wood frame hopper sash windows on all four elevations.

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Stable #3 is located along the western edge of the agricultural complex, adjacent to the wagon shed. The building is a one story concrete block structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1930. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. The side gable roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. A cupola is located along the ridgeline. Five stalls are located on the east façade with a 6 bay arcade with arched openings providing shelter for the stalls. Each stall has a set of wood plank Dutch doors. On the southern end of the building is a 2 bay wagon shed with roll-up doors.

Dairy Barn and Silo, ca. 1940

The dairy barn is located on the eastern edge of the agricultural complex. The building is a one story concrete block structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1940. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. Horizontal siding has been used to clad the gable ends and the gambrel roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. A hay hood is located on the south façade. The building is entered through sets of sliding wood plank doors with diagonal bracing on the north, east, and south elevations. The dairy barn has 6 pane wood frame hopper sash windows on all four elevations.

At the northwest corner of the dairy barn, is a concrete tile silo on a poured concrete pad. The silo has a hemispherical roof clad with standing-seam metal. An enclosed metal ladder is located on the north façade.

Milk House, ca. 1940

The milk house is located on the western edge of the agricultural complex, across the access road from Stable #1. The building is a one story concrete block structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1940. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. Vertical boards have been used to clad the gable ends and the side gable roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. The building is entered through a wood plank door with diagonal bracing on the east façade.

Corncrib, ca. 1900

To the south of the milk house is the ca. 1900 corncrib. The building is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on brick piers. The walls are clad with 3" wide vertical wood boards spaced approximately 2" apart. The front gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal. The building is entered through a wood plank door with diagonal bracing on the north façade.

Wagon Shed, ca. 1890

To the south of the corncrib is the ca. 1890 corncrib. The building is a one-story light timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The building rests on brick piers. The walls are clad with vertical wood boards. The front gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal. The building is entered through a wood plank door with diagonal bracing on the east façade. Two wood plank Dutch doors are located on the south façade.

Delco House, ca. 1940

The Delco house is located at the southwest corner of the agricultural complex, to the south of Stable #3. A Delco house is a structure intended to house a generator and electrical equipment prior to the introduction of electricity in rural areas by the Rural Electrical Administration (REA) beginning in the 1930s. The building is a one story concrete block structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1940. The building rests on a poured concrete slab. Vertical boards have been used to clad the gable ends and the side gable roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. The building is entered through a wood plank door with diagonal bracing on the east façade. The interior of the building contains the generator.

Machinery Shed, ca. 1980

The machinery shed is located at the southeast corner of the agricultural complex, to the south of the dairy barn. The building is a one story metal frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1980. The building rests on a poured

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concrete slab. The wall and front gable roof are sheathed with standing seam metal. The building is entered through a sliding metal door on the south façade.

Tenant House #1, ca. 1860

Tenant House #1 is located to the east of the agricultural complex. The residence is a two story wood frame structure constructed ca. 1860 with a one story side addition constructed at an unknown date. The building rests on a brick masonry foundation that has been covered with stucco. The building is clad with vinyl siding and the gable roofs are sheathed with asphalt shingles. The building has one exterior end wall brick masonry chimney. The windows are 1/1 vinyl sashes. The integral front porch has a poured concrete floor, and two square wood posts. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey.

Hay Shed, ca. 1980

The hay shed is located to the east of Tenant House #1. The building is a one story metal frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1980. The north, east, and west facades are open. The walls and side gable roof are sheathed with standing seam metal.

Shed, ca. 1940

The shed is located to the east of Tenant House #1. The building is a one story wood frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1940. The walls are board and batten and the front gable roof is sheathed with corrugated metal. The building is entered through a wood plank door with diagonal bracing on the west façade.

Tenant House #2, ca. 1860

Tenant House #2 is located to the east of Tenant House #1. The residence is a two story wood frame structure constructed ca. 1860 with multiple front and side additions constructed at unknown dates. The building rests on a brick masonry foundation that has been covered with stucco. The building is clad with vinyl siding and the gable and shed roofs are sheathed with asphalt shingles. The building has one exterior side wall brick masonry chimney. The windows are 1/1 vinyl sashes. The shed roof front porch has a poured concrete floor, and four square wood posts. The interior was not accessible at the time of the survey.

Shed, ca. 1930

The shed is located to the east of Tenant House #2. The building is a one story wood frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1930. The walls are clad with horizontal wood siding and the side gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The building is entered through a wood plank door with diagonal bracing on the south façade. The windows are 2 pane wood hopper sashes.

Tobacco Barn, ca. 1900

The tobacco barn is located at the entrance to the property, to the west of the residence. The building is a one story timber frame structure with a rectangular plan constructed ca. 1900. The walls are clad with vertical wood planks and the side gable roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. The building is entered through two wood plank doors with diagonal bracing and a sliding wood plank door on the east façade.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates 1830; 1880; 1920 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates ca. 1830; ca. 1880-1940

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary Statement of Significance

Blythewood is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C with a period of significance of 1830 to 1940. The property is eligible under Criterion A for its associations with the history of agriculture in Prince George's County in the 19th and 20th centuries. The property shows the growth and changes associated with agriculture in the county in its collection of buildings reflecting a mixture of agricultural activities on the property, including tobacco, dairy products, and horse breeding. The collection of nineteen domestic and agricultural buildings at Blythewood shows the evolution of an upper-class farm in western Prince George's County.

The property is also eligible under Criterion C for the architecture of the property. Though altered since its original construction ca. 1830, the house clearly illustrates the changes in popular styles over a 100 year span and the incorporation of these popular styles into the architecture of rural Prince George's County. The icehouse, smokehouse, and worker housing which comprise the domestic outbuildings are simpler in detail than the residence, but use higher quality materials than the other buildings on the property, which is in keeping with their location on the property. The ca. 1880 to ca. 1940 agricultural complex contains an assortment of buildings, including a dairy barn, milk house, silo, corncrib, wagon shed, three stables, and a Delco house which together create a cohesive whole laid out in an organized linear plan along the access road. Though the buildings were constructed over a 60 year period, they use similar materials, forms, and simple detailing. The tenant houses, which have been altered, are in keeping with the simple architecture of the agricultural complex and are organized in a linear plan along the access road and are separated both physically and visually from the residence.

Historical Background

Agriculture was the primary industry in Prince George's County throughout the eighteenth century with tobacco being the principal crop and grains, such as wheat and corn, becoming major crops as the century progressed. Tobacco yields declined over time as poor farming practices led to the depletion of the soil and lower yields which were insufficient to support a family. By 1820, most farmers in the county lived on small, family-owned farms and grew a variety crops in addition to tobacco. After the Civil War, the number of large tobacco farms continued to decline, though the county remained a major producer of tobacco.

During the last years of the nineteenth century, the agricultural base of Prince George's County shifted from tobacco and grains to tobacco and truck crops, which include fruits and vegetables, as these crops were in high demand due to a growing urban market. Throughout the Depression and World War II, agriculture remained the primary industry of the area, with tobacco being the primary cash crop. Farm sizes continued to decrease due to a combination of the rising costs of land and the Federal regulation of tobacco production.

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Blythewood was constructed ca. 1830 for William Ferguson Berry, who owned the property at that time. Berry lived on the property until his death in 1873. At that time, the property was inventoried. The inventory shows that the house contained four rooms on each floor and that a separate kitchen, fish house, and meat house were also located on the property. The property was inherited by William Berry's son, Elisha, who had the kitchen addition constructed ca. 1880 and made major improvements to the property including the construction of several of the stables. It was Elisha Berry who first named the property Blythewood.

In 1924, Elisha Berry's son, also named Elisha, sold Blythewood to Henry Leonard. At that time the property contained the residence, an ice house, chicken house, wood house, pig house, horse stable, cow stable, two wagon sheds, two tenant houses, two tobacco barns, and a tobacco shed in addition to the fields and orchards. Under the ownership of either Elisha Berry Jr. or Henry Leonard the residence was extensively remodeled. Henry Leonard sold Blythewood to Alfred H. Smith, the father of the present owner, Alfred Smith, in 1941.

Blythewood was originally surveyed in October 1974 by Christopher Owens, Park Historian with the Maryland National Capitol Parks and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) as part of an update of the M-NCPPC 1969 historic sites survey of Prince George's County. The form was updated in September 1985 by Susan Pearl, Research Historian with the Historic Preservation Commission of the Prince George's County Planning Division of M-NCPPC.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. PG:78-13

Nobel, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1997.
Rawson, Richard. *Old Barn Plans*. New York: Bonanza Books, 1979.
Whitaker, James H. *Agricultural Buildings and Structures*. Reston, Va.: Reston Publishing Co., 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 160 acres
Acreage of historical setting 160 acres
Quadrangle name Upper Marlboro, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the surveyed property is marked as current boundary as described on Prince George's County Tax Map 90, Parcel 167. The existing parcel portion is concurrent with the historic setting, and includes character-defining resources and setting which relate to the property's construction and evolution.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Amy Barnes, Architectural Historian		
organization	URS Corporation	date	January 28, 2005
street & number	200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101	telephone	301.258.9780
city or town	Gaithersburg	state	MD

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Blythewood Inventory Number: PG:78-13
Address: 4210 Mellwood (Melwood) Road Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Upper Marlboro Zip Code: 20772 County: Prince Georges
USGS Quadrangle(s): Upper Marlboro
Property Owner: Alfred Smith Tax Account ID Number: _____
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 167 Tax Map Number: 90
Project: Blythewood at Smith Farm Agency: _____
Agency Prepared By: URS Corporation
Preparer's Name: Amy Barnes Date Prepared: 1/28/2005
Documentation is presented in: October 1974 MIHP Form; September 1985 MIHP Form; January 2005 MIHP Form
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Blythewood is located along Mellwood Road in a valley located between Westphalia Road and State Route 4, to the northeast of Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, Maryland. The property currently consists of a ca. 1830 main residence with domestic outbuildings and a ca. 1880 to 1940 agricultural complex. There are three domestic outbuildings, consisting of an icehouse, smokehouse, and worker housing. The agricultural complex contains ten outbuildings, consisting of a dairy barn, milk house, silo, corncrib, wagon shed, three stables, a Delco house, and machinery shed. Two tenant houses with three associated modern outbuildings are located to the east of the agricultural complex, beyond a wood fence. An associated tobacco barn is located in an adjacent field to the west of the main house along the entry drive.

Blythewood is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the local level with a period of significance of 1830 to 1940.

The property is eligible under Criterion A for its associations with the history of agriculture in Prince George's County in the 19th and 20th centuries. The property shows the growth and changes associated with agriculture in the county in its collection of buildings indicating a mixture of agricultural activities on the property, including tobacco, dairy products, and horse breeding.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments: *Alterations to main house render it ineligible under Criterion C; however, extensive complement of agricultural buildings confer significance under Criterion A.*

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date: 2/8/05

Reviewer, National Register Program Date: 2/8/05

200500276

The collection of nineteen domestic and agricultural buildings at Blythewood shows the evolution of a upper-class farm in western Prince George's County.

Blythewood is not considered eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion B as the farm is not associated with any individual significant on the local, state, or national level.

The property is also eligible under Criterion C for the architecture of the property. Though altered since its original construction ca. 1830, the house clearly illustrates the changes in popular styles over a 100 year span and the incorporation of these popular styles into the architecture of rural Prince George's County. The icehouse, smokehouse, and worker housing which comprise the domestic outbuildings are simpler in detail than the residence, but use higher quality materials than the other buildings on the property, which is in keeping with their location on the property. The ca. 1880 to ca. 1940 agricultural complex contains an assortment of buildings, including a dairy barn, milk house, silo, corncrib, wagon shed, three stables, and a Delco house which together create a cohesive whole laid out in an organized linear plan along the access road. Though the buildings were constructed over a 60 year period, they use similar materials, forms, and simple detailing. The tenant houses, which have been altered, are in keeping with the simple architecture of the agricultural complex and are organized in a linear plan along the access road and are separated both physically and visually from the residence.

National Register-eligibility under Criterion D was not investigated as part of this study.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

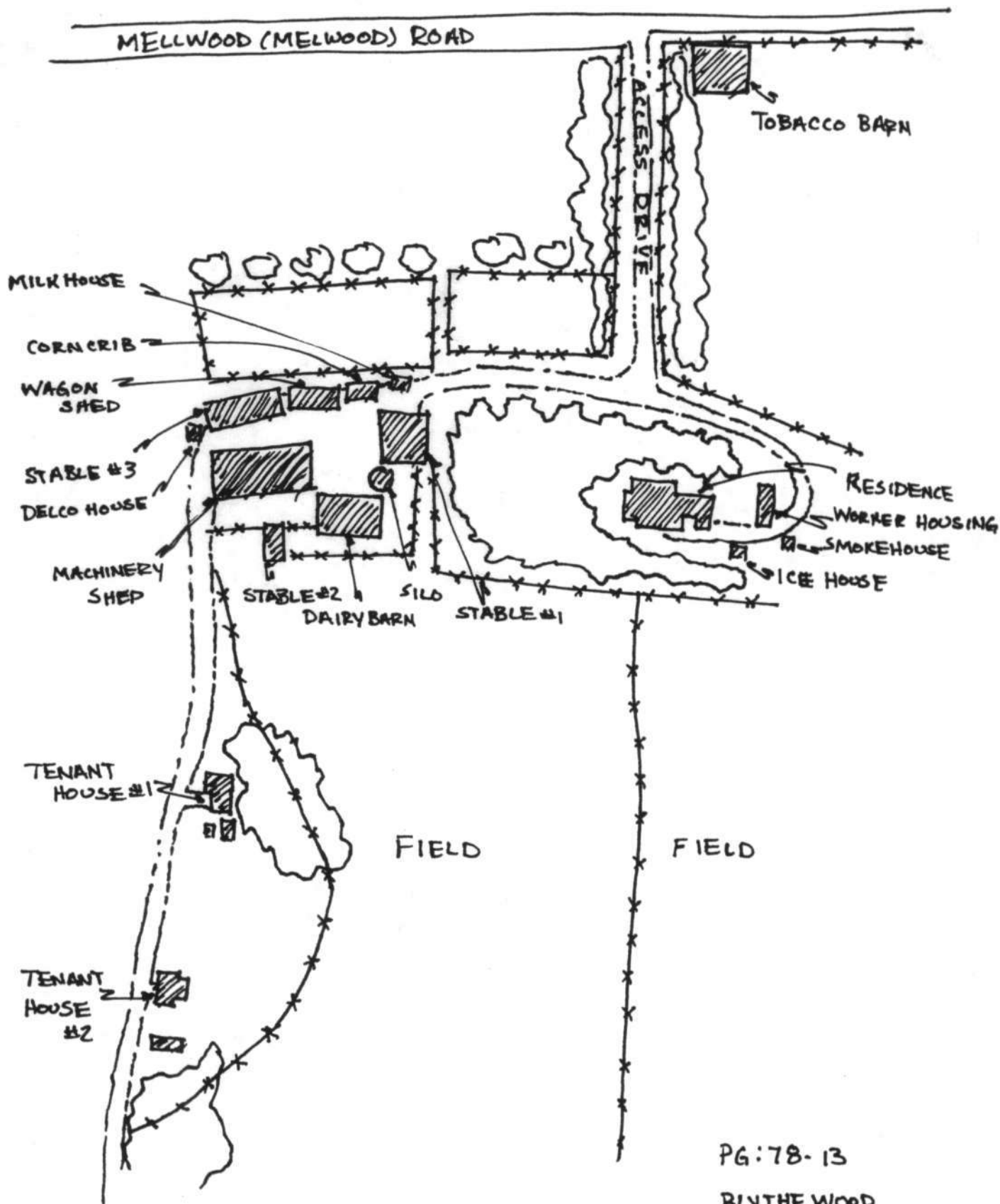
Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

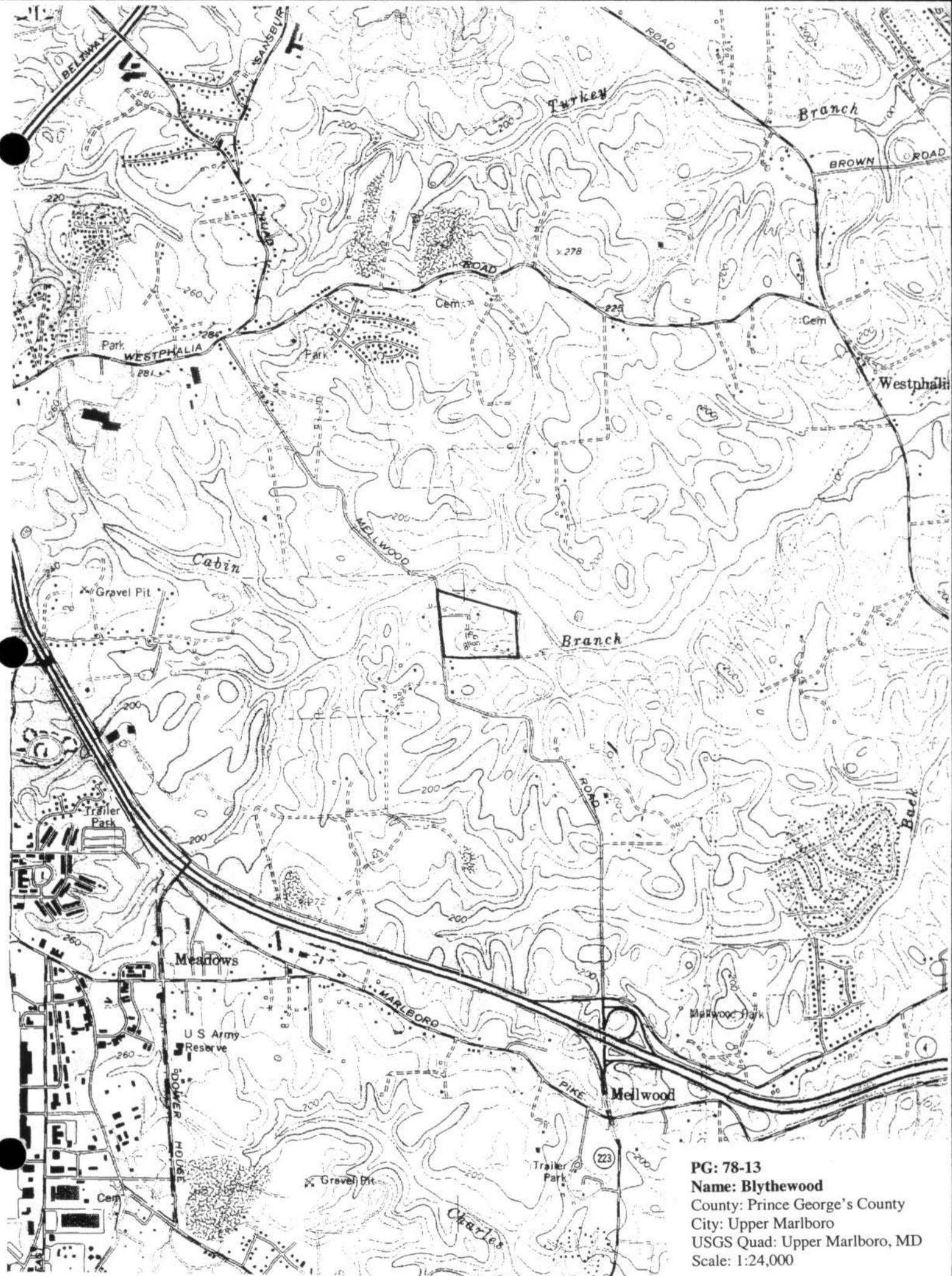
MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date



PG:78-13

BLYTHE WOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
UPPER MARLBORO
NOT TO SCALE



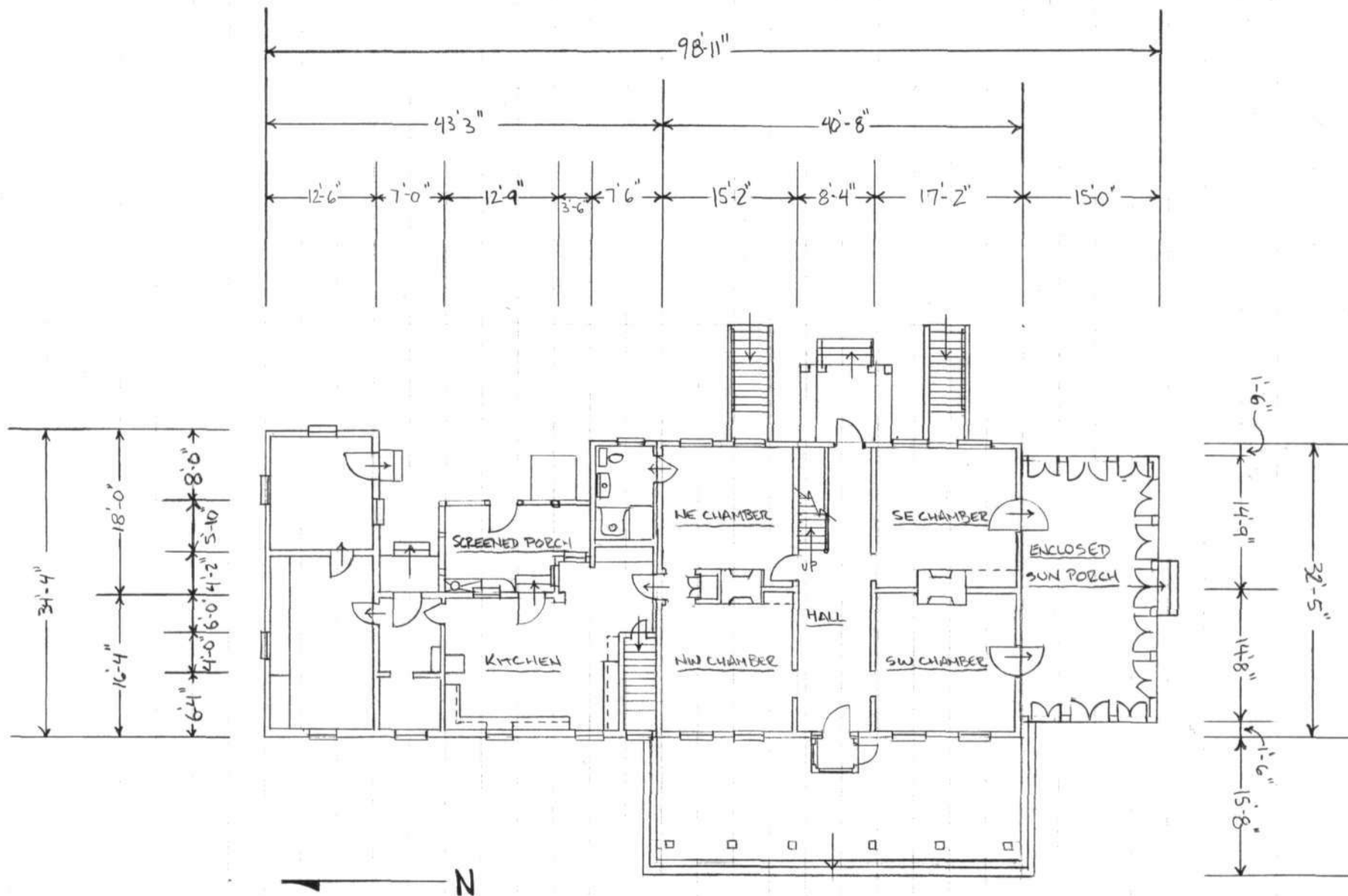
PG: 78-13
Name: Blythewood
County: Prince George's County
City: Upper Marlboro
USGS Quad: Upper Marlboro, MD
Scale: 1:24,000

PG: 78-13
Blythewood
4210 Mellwood (Melwood) Road d
Upper Marlboro
ca. 1830; ca. 1880-1940
Private

Note: This appends the existing MIHP survey forms for PG: 78-13 written in 1974 and 1985.

Blythewood is located along Mellwood Road in a valley located between Westphalia Road and State Route 4, to the northeast of Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, Maryland. The property currently consists of a ca. 1830 main residence with domestic outbuildings and a ca. 1880 to 1940 agricultural complex. There are three domestic outbuildings, consisting of an icehouse, smokehouse, and worker housing. The agricultural complex contains ten outbuildings, consisting of a dairy barn, milk house, silo, corncrib, wagon shed, three stables, a Delco house, and machinery shed. Two tenant houses with three associated modern outbuildings are located to the east of the agricultural complex, beyond a wood fence. An associated tobacco barn is located in an adjacent field to the west of the main house along the entry drive.

Blythewood is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C with a period of significance of 1830 to 1940. The property is eligible under Criterion A for its associations with the history of agriculture in Prince George's County in the 19th and 20th centuries. The property shows the growth and changes associated with agriculture in the county in its collection of buildings reflecting a mixture of agricultural activities on the property, including tobacco, dairy products, and horse breeding. The property is also eligible under Criterion C for the architecture of the property which shows changes in popular architectural styles over a 100 year span and the incorporation of these popular styles into the architecture of rural Prince George's County as well as a variety of specialized agricultural outbuildings.



NOTE - ALL → INDICATE STEP DOWN UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

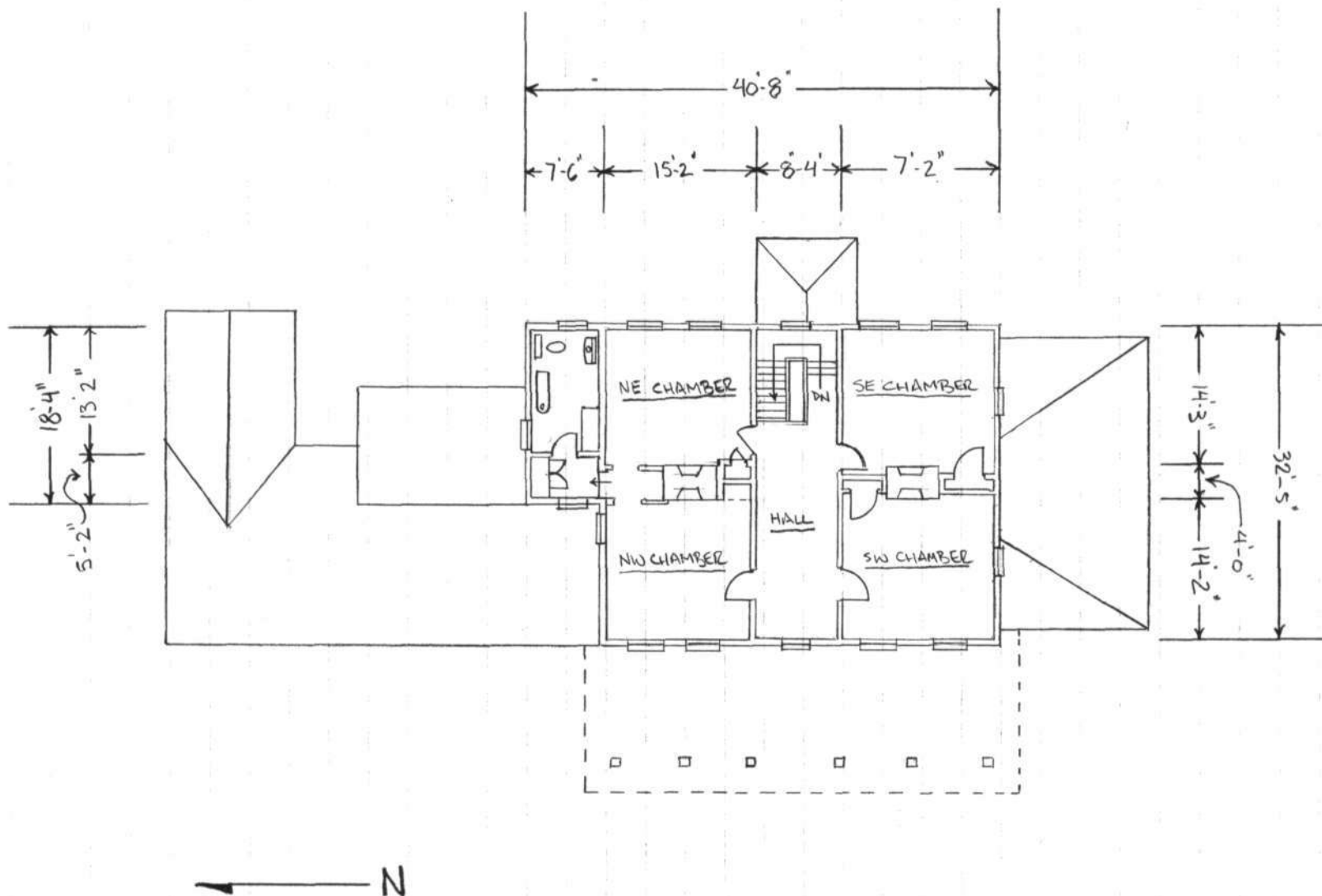
BLYTHEWOOD FIRST FLOOR PLAN

PG 78-13, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"

JUNE 2005

DRAWN BY C. TUMINARD, URS CORP.



BLYTHEWOOD SECOND FLOOR PLAN

PG: 78-13, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

SCALE - $\frac{1}{16}'' = 1'-0''$

JUNE 2005

DRAWN BY C. TUMINARO, URS CORP.



6946 17015 +00+00+00-01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO

1st FLOOR, ENCLOSED SUN PEXCH, LOOKING E
#1 of 48



6944 2011 +00+00+00-01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 98-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
COTUMMARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR, ENCLOSED SUN BATH, LOOKING W
#2 of 48



694< 3>008 +00+00+00-01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SW CHAMBER, LOOKING NE
#3 of 48



2946 4>001 +00+00+00-01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C, TOMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
PIS SAPO
1st FLOOR, SW CHAMBER, LOOKING NW
#4 of 48



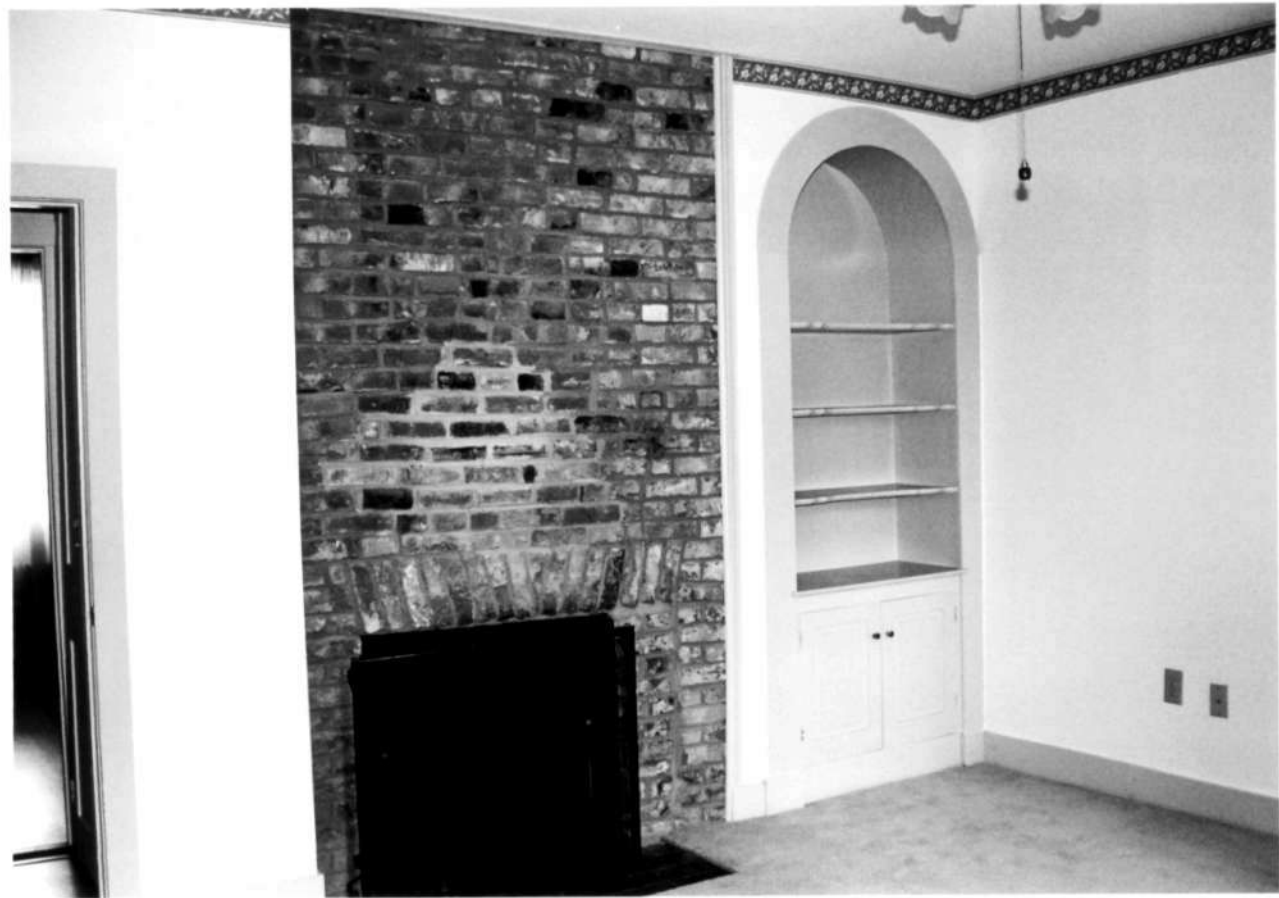
694< 5>078 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR CENTER HALL, LOOKING E
#5 of 48



694< 6>074 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD, SHPO
1st FLOOR, CENTER HALL, LOOKING W
#6 of 48



694< 7>070 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG178-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, NW CHAMBER, LOOKING SE

#7 of 48



692< 4>018 +00+00+00-03 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD. SHPO
1ST FLOOR, NW CHAMBER, LOOKING SW
#8 of 48



6946 9>063 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, NE CHAMBER, LOOKING W

#9 of 48



694x 10>058 +00+00+00-07 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

DETHENWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

6 TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1st FLOOR, NE CHAMBER, LOOKING NE

#10 of 48



694/ 11>055 +00+00+00-03 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SE CHAMBER, LOOKING SE
11 of 48



06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARD

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

= 1st FLOOR, SE CHAMBER, LOOKING SW

*12 of 48



6944 13>045 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPD

1st FLOOR, SE CHAMBER, LOOKING SW (RETAKE)

#13 of 48



6947 14>043 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR, SW CHAMBER, LOOKING NE

#14 of 43



6946 15037 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PR:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARD
17 JUNE 2005

MDS/HPO

2ND FLOOR, SW CHAMBER, LOOKING NW

#15 of 48



694< 16>036 +00+00+00-04 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PR:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
A. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
FID SHPO
2ND FLOOR, CENTER HALL - Looking N
#16 of 148



06/24/05 StarLab

Pg: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR, CENTER HALL, LOOKING WEST
#11 of 48



694< 18>026 *00+00+00-07 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

2ND FLOOR, NW CHAMBER, LOOKING NE

#18 of 48



06/24/05 193023 +00+00+00-05 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-12
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MDSHPO
2ND FLOOR, NW CHAMBER, LOOKING SW
II 9 of 48



694< 20>018<+00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PQ:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR, NE CHAMBER, LOOKING SW
#20 of 48



694< 21>014 +00+00+00-04 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:79-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TOMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR, NE CORNER, LOOKING NE
#21 of 44



06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SAPO

2ND FLOOR, SE CHAMBER, LOOKING NW

#22 of 48



694< 23>000 +00+00+00-05 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MID SHPD

2ND FLOOR, SE CHAMBER, LOOKING SE

#23 of 48



24>003 +00+00+00-03 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

P478-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR, BATHROOM ADDITION
*24 of 48
LOOKING E



6945 17016 +00+00+00-07 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
2ND FLOOR, BATHROOM ADDITION, LOOKING W
25 of 48



6946 2>009 +00+00+00-03 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1st FLOOR, BATHROOM ADDITION, LOOKING E
#26 of 48



6946 31005 +00+00+00-05 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

C. TUMIWARD

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, KITCHEN ADDITION, LOOKING N

#27 of 48



6946 4>004 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

D. TUMINARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO

1st FLOOR, KITCHEN ADDITION, LOOKING S

28 of 48



693<20>004 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

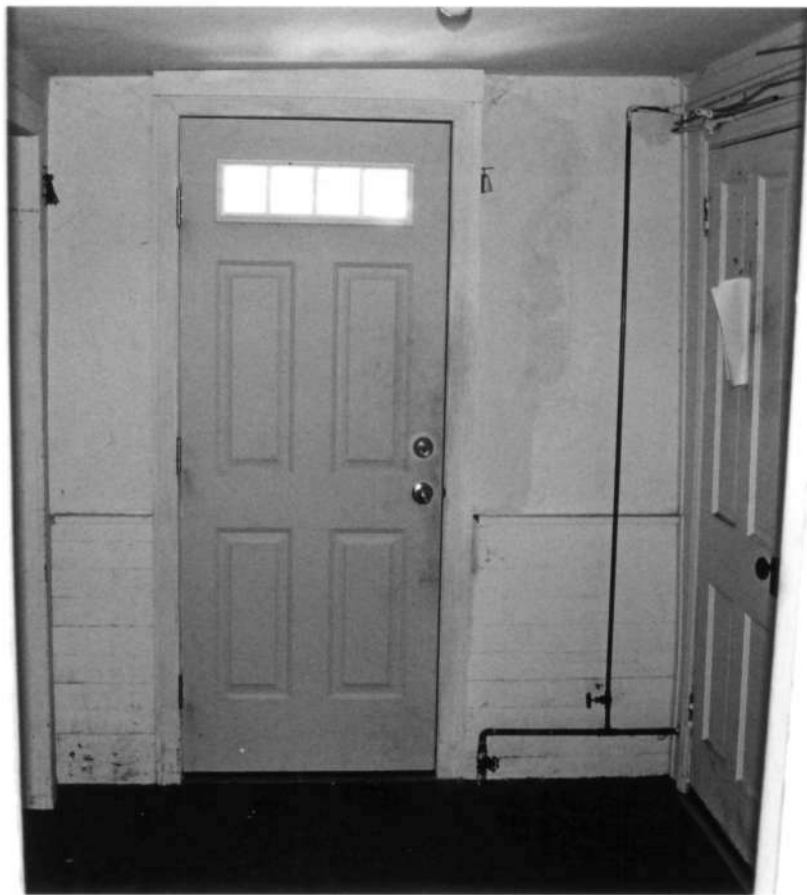
C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1st FLOOR, BACK ENTRY HALL ADDITION, LOOKING W

± 29 of 48



693/ 19>005 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

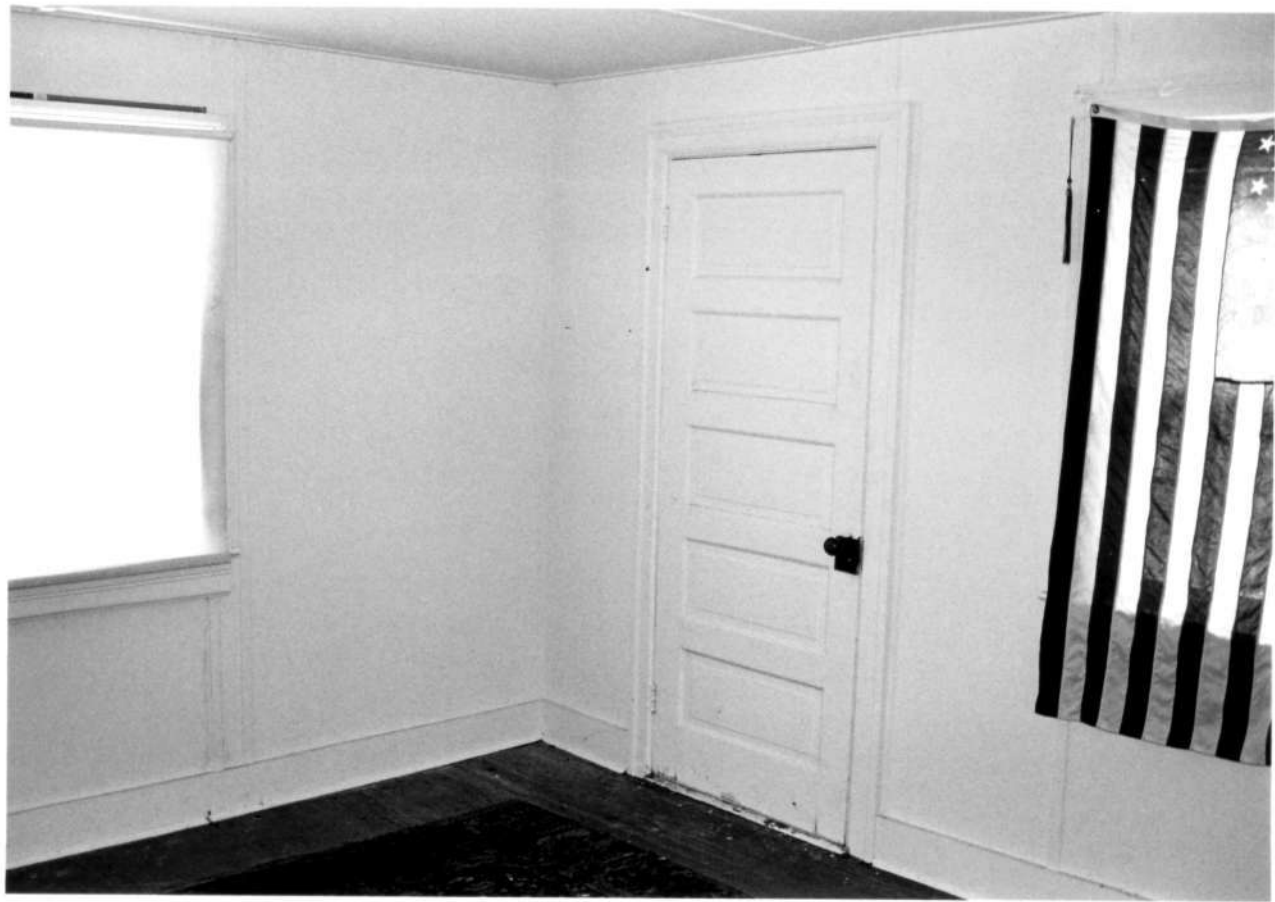
C. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, BACK ENTRY HALL ADDITION, LOOKING E

30 of 48



6934 187009 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PS: 78=13

ELYNTHWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

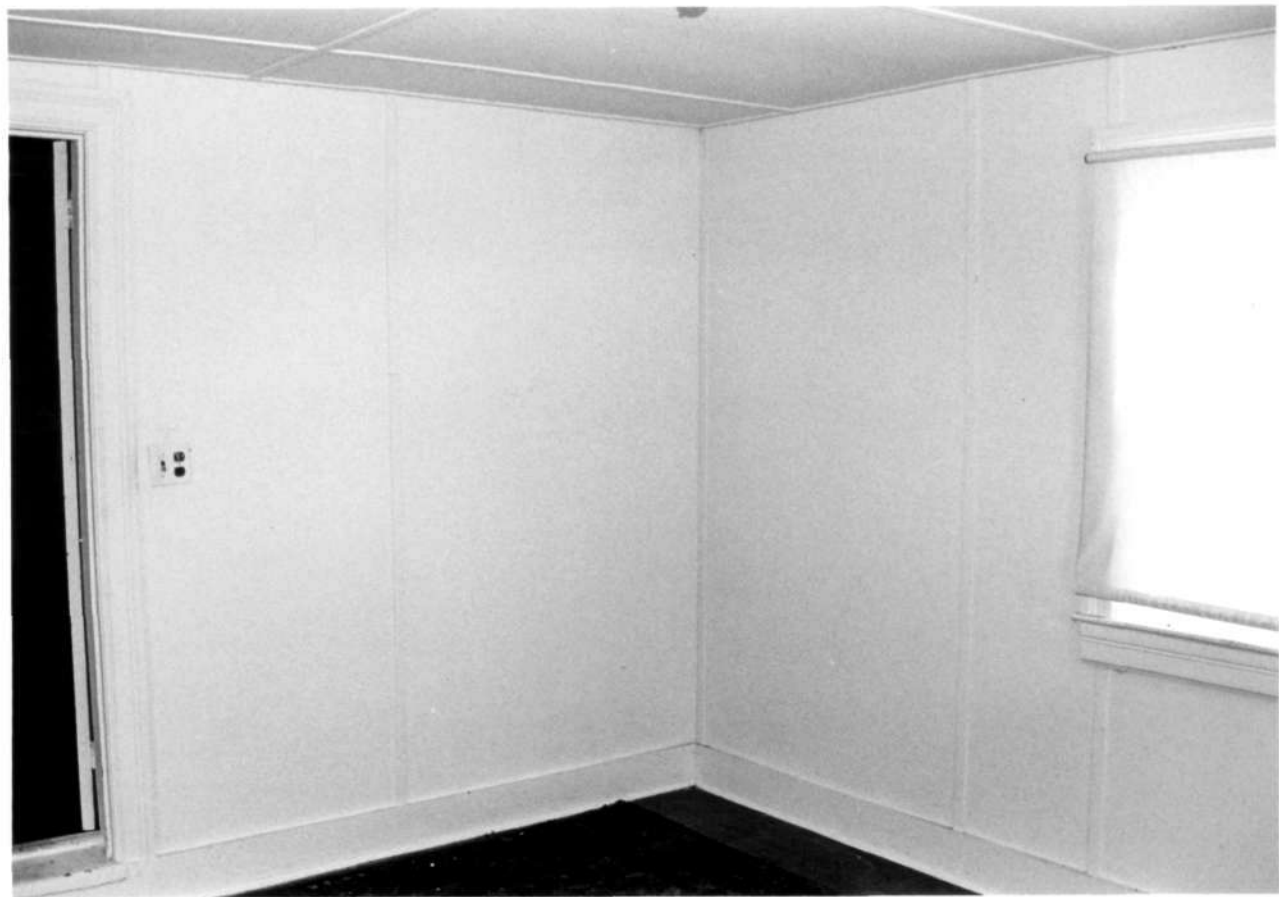
C. T. MINARD

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, NORTH ADDITION, EAST ROOM, LOOKING SE

31 of 48



693< 17>016 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

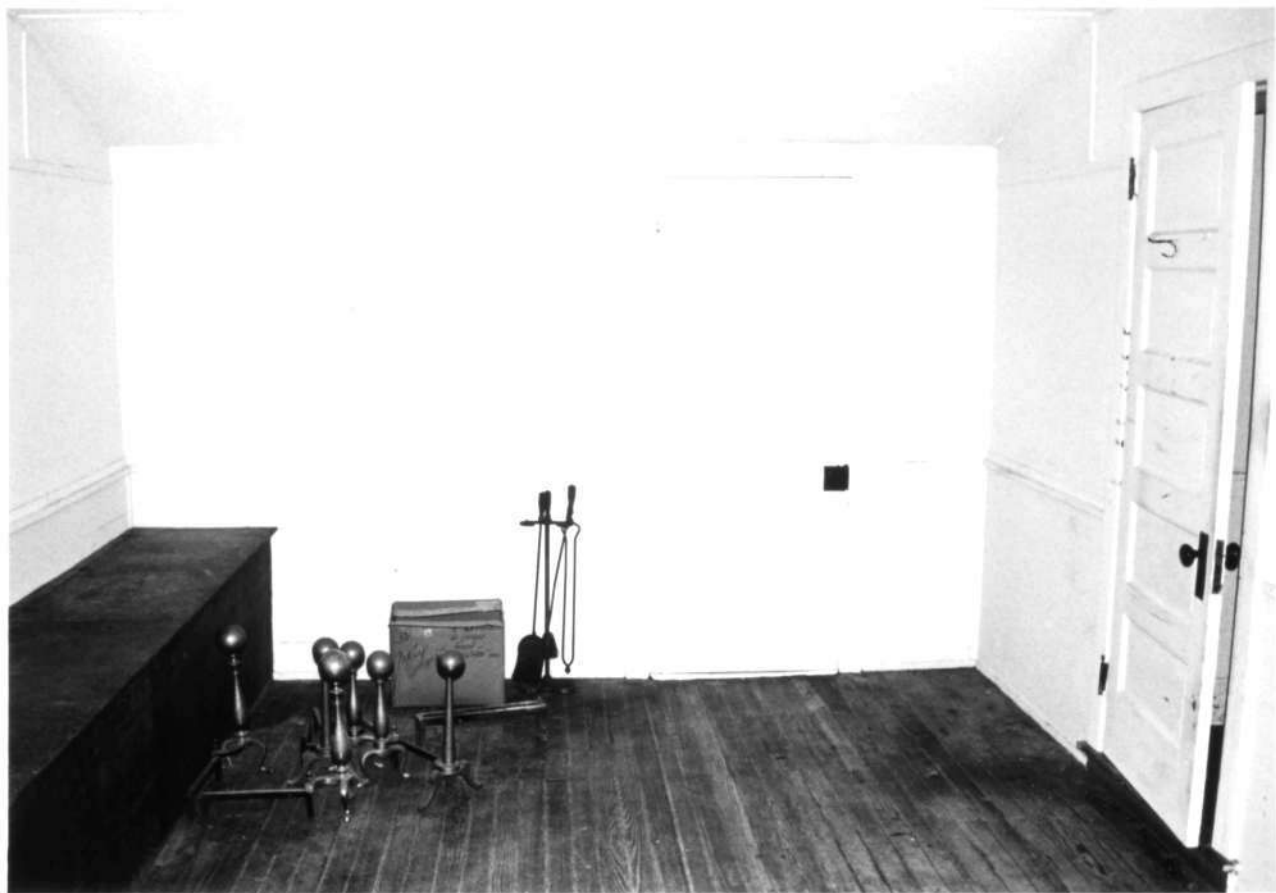
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BLYTHENOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TURNARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, NORTH ADDITION EAST ROOM, LOOKING NW



693< 16>020 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarkLab

PG:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TOMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPD
1st FLOOR, NORTH ADDITION WEST ROOM, LOOKING NW
33 of 48



693< 15>024 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
ND SHPO
1ST FLOOR NORTH ADDITION WEST ROOM, LOOKING E
34 of 48



6946 30001 +00+00+00-01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR, DOWNSTAIRS TO BASEMENT, LOOKING W
#35 of 48



6934 12>028 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13

BLYTHEWOOD

PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY

E. TUMINARO

17 JUNE 2005

MD SHPO

1ST FLOOR, DETAIL OF CABINET FROM KITCHEN TO MAIN BLOCK,
LOOKING S

36 of 48



6934 137023 +00+00+00+01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13

BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR, NW CHAMBER CABINET DETAIL, LOOKING E
#37 of 48



693< 14>018 +00+00+00-01 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PA:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1st FLOOR, SW CHAMBER MANTEL DETAIL, LOOKING E
#38 of 48



15>015 +00+00+00+00 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 18-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES CNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MDSHPD
1st FLOOR, SW CHAMBER, MANTEL DETAIL, LOOKING SE
39 of 48

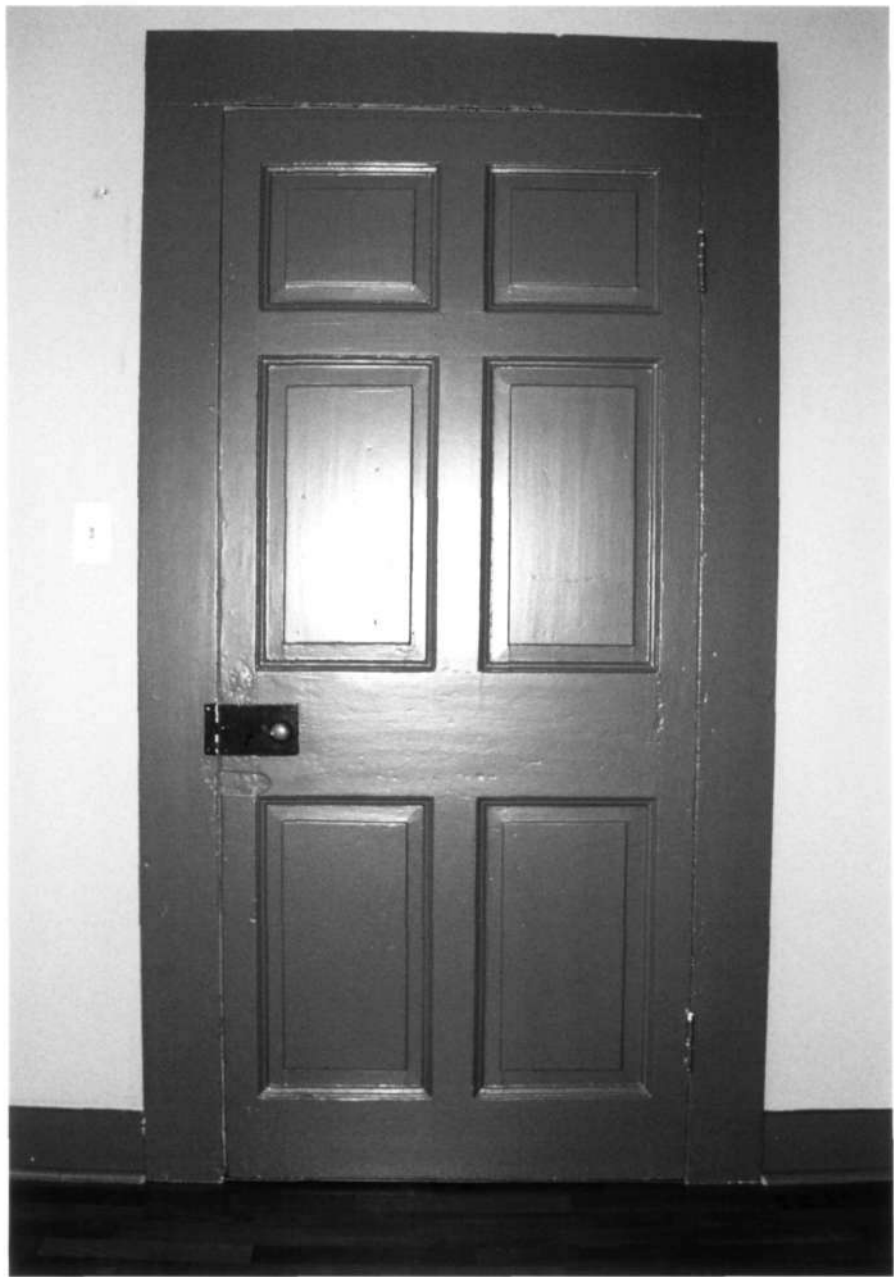


6937 16>011 +00+00+00+02 000000
06-24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MDSHPD

1ST FLOOR, NE CHAMBER FIREPLACE DETAIL, LOOKING W

#40 of 48



6934 17>005 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG. 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
COLUMBIANA
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
1ST FLOOR, SE CHAMBER S DOOR, LOOKING S
#41 of 48



693 18004 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-B
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
COLUMBIANA

17 JUNE 2005

MD5A0

EXTERIOR ADDITIONS, LOOKING NW

#42 of 48



6937 32004 +00+00+00-05 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: TS-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
CITYWARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPD

EXTERIOR ADDITIONS AND MAIN BLOCK, LOOKING SW
#43 of 48



1012912 40003 +00+00+00-01 000000
07/05/05 StarLab

PG-78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
C. TERMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPD
EXTERIOR, MAIN BLOCK LOOKING SW-
#44 of 48



06934 4>027 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARO
17 JUNE 2005
MDSHPD
EXTERIOR ADDITIONS, LOOKING SW

#45 of 48



693< 3>030 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

Pg: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TURNARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO

EXTERIOR, WEST ELEVATION MAIN BLOCK, LOOKING NE

#46 of 48



6937 2>035 +00+00+00-02 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG: 78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO
EXTERIOR, SOUTH ELEVATION MAIN BLOCK, LOOKING N



693< 1>038 +00+00+00-03 000000
06/24/05 StarLab

PG:78-13
BLYTHEWOOD
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
C. TUMINARD
17 JUNE 2005
MD SHPO

EXTERIOR, WEST ELEVATION FROM ENTRANCE ROAD, LOOKING E
#48 of 48



PG:78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN+ 2 0008

MD SHPO

Tenant House #2

001

86619

1/12



PG:78-13

Blythe wood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-65

5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN+ 1 0008

MD SHPO

Tenant House #1

2/12

002

86620



PG: 78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD S#P0

5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN+ 1 0008

Agricultural Complex from Tenant House #1

3/12

004

86622



PG-78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD SHPO

5.65 BA 0ANXIN NNN+ 1 0008

Agricultural Complex looking NW

4/12

005

86623



PG: 78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD SAPO

5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN 0 0007

Stable #1

5/12

006

86601



PG: 78-13

Blythewood

Prince Georges County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

5.65 BA 0ANXIN NNN- 1 0007

MDSHPO

Worker Housing

6/12

007

86602



PG: 78-13

Blythewood

Prince Georges County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN 0 0007

MDSHP0

Residence - 3/4 view looking SE

7/12

008

86603



PG:78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD SHPO 5.65 BA 0ANXIN NNN 0 0007

Ice House + Smokehouse

8/12

009

86604



PG: 78-13

Blythwood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD SHPO 5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN- 5 0007

House - Rear 3/4 view looking SW

9/12

010

86605



PG: 78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD SHPO 5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN 0 0007

House - S Elevation

10/12

011

86606



PG: 78-B

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

A. Barnes

1-14-05

MD SHPO

5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN 0 0007

House - Front Portico looking NE

11/12

013

86608



PG: 78-13
Blythewood
Prince George's County, MD
A. Barnes
1-14-05

MD SHPO 5.65 BA 0ANX1N NNN 0 0007

Tobacco Barn looking NW
12/12

014

86609

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #78-13

Building Date: early 19th c.

Building Name: Blythewood

Location: 4210 Mellwood Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland

Private/Residence-Agricultural/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description

Blythewood is a multi-section farmhouse which is the principal feature in a large farm complex. It is located atop a hill on the east side of Mellwood Road overlooking the dairy and tobacco barns in the valley to the south and west. The house itself consists of a main block with two major additions. The main block is a two-and-one-half-story shallow-pitch gable-roofed frame building, five bays by two bays, with entrance in the central bay of the five-bay west facade, through a door with four-pane transom and four-pane sidelights. The west facade is sheltered by a massive two-story shed-roofed portico. There are two interior brick chimneys at the ridge. Siding is German, painted white. Interior plan consists of a central stair-hall with two parlors on each side. To the north is a one-story wing, four bays long, with a shed roof which is pitched steeply toward the rear. The eaves of its roof, on north and west, are decorated with scalloped bargeboards. At the south gable end of the main block is another one-story wing, which consists of an enclosed sun porch; it has a curved hip roof and its openings are double louvered doors with louvered fans above, making its facade a series of arches. Directly north of the main house is a complex of outbuildings; a one-story storage building, a shed constructed of hand-hewn members, and a board-and-batten ground-level ice house. In the valley to the south is a complex of red-roofed dairy buildings.

Significance

Blythewood is an excellent example of a complete farm establishment. The focal point is a large multi-section dwelling which stands on a hill overlooking the rest of the farm. The main block was begun, probably by William Ferguson Berry, in the early nineteenth century, on parts of tracts known as Free School and Lucky Discovery. It was a large frame house with Georgian plan, four rooms on each story. After Berry's death in 1873, the farm passed to his son, Elisha E. Berry, who renamed it Blythewood, and who undertook major improvements in the last years of the nineteenth century. It was probably at this time that the shed-roof kitchen wing with its Victorian trim was constructed, to replace the former separate kitchen. Early in the twentieth century, the neo-classical portico was constructed across the main facade. In 1923, when Elisha E. Berry's son sold Blythewood, it was a complete farm establishment with main dwellings and many barns and outbuildings. In 1941, it was sold to Alfred H. Smith, who resides there today. Blythewood is one of the most beautiful farms in Prince George's County. Although the house has been altered, it represents the homestead of four generations of an important Prince George's County family. In the main house and the outbuildings are represented architectural styles from late Georgian and utilitarian/vernacular, through Victorian to neo classical, and it is a major landmark in the historic and still rural Mellwood area.

Acreage: 156 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Blythewood

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 4210 Mellwood Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Upper Marlboro Mellwood vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Alfred H. Smith

street & number 4210 Mellwood Road telephone no.:

city, town Upper Marlboro, state and zip code MD. 20772

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 619

street & number Main Street folio 167

city, town Upper Marlboro, state MD. 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 ☐ federal ☐ state ☒ county ☐ local

depository for survey records History Division, M-NCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state MD. 20737

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #78-13

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Blythewood is a multi-section farmhouse which is the principal feature in a large farm complex. It is located atop a hill on the east side of Mellwood Road overlooking the dairy and tobacco barns in the valley to the south and west. One approaches the house from Mellwood Road by a long lane through an avenue of trees. The house itself consists of a main block with two major additions on the north and one on the south.

The main block is a two-and-one-half-story shallow-pitch gable-roofed frame building, five bays by two bays, with entrance in the third (central) bay of the (main) west facade. Entrance is through a door with four-pane transom and four-pane sidelights; the entrance is sheltered by a glass enclosure. The entire west facade is sheltered by a massive two-story shed-roofed portico; six tall chamfered posts support a plain frieze. There are two interior brick chimneys at the ridge near the north and south gable ends. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash, and have green louvered shutters. Their plain board surrounds have crown moldings. Siding is German, painted white (except the south gable end which is covered with plain wide board siding); the roof is of standing seam metal and the building rests on a brick foundation. Interior plan consists of a central stairhall with two parlors on each side.

To the north is a high one-story wing, four bays long, with a shed roof which is pitched steeply toward the rear (east). Windows are 6/6 double hung sash, and have plain board surrounds and green louvered shutters. The eaves of its roof, on north and west, are decorated with scalloped bargeboards. There is one large chimney near the center of the red standing seam metal roof. The siding is of plain board, and the wing rests on a brick foundation.

Behind this shed roof wing is a one-story gable-roofed addition which extends to the east, its ridge perpendicular to that of the main block. It is one-bay by one-bay, with German siding and a red standing seam metal roof.

At the south gable end of the main block is another one-story wing, which consists of an enclosed sun porch. Latin in style, it has a curved hip roof covered with red standing seam metal; three bays by five bays, its openings are double louvered doors, with louvered fans above, making its facade a series of arches.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. #78-13

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) local history

Specific dates early 19th c. Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Blythewood is an excellent example of a complete farm establishment. The focal point of this complex is a large multi-section dwelling which stands on a hill overlooking the rest of the farm in Mellwood, one of the most beautiful and historic areas of the county.

The main block of this house was begun, probably by William Ferguson Berry, in the early nineteenth century, on parts of tracts known as Free School and Lucky Discovery.¹ The Berry family had resided in an eighteenth century frame house at Berry's Grove, north of Marlboro. After his marriage in the 1830's, William T. Berry established himself at the subject farm in Mellwood, in a large frame house with Georgian plan, four rooms on each story. At the time of his death in 1873, William Berry's inventory indicated furnishings in all these rooms, as well as a fish house, meat house and separate kitchen.²

The farm passed to Berry's son, Elisha E. Berry, who renamed it Blythewood, and who undertook major improvements in the last years of the nineteenth century. It was probably at this time that the shed-roof kitchen wing with its Victorian trim was constructed, to replace the former separate kitchen (destroyed, presumably, by fire). Early in the twentieth century, the neo-classical portico was constructed across the main facade. By this time, Blythewood was a complete farm establishment.³

In 1923, Elisha E. Berry's son (of the same name) sold the 160-acre Blythewood farm to Henry Leonard. At that time the farm was described as including the "Master's house", ice house, chicken house, wood house, pig pens, horse stable, cow stable, two wagon sheds, two tenant houses, two tobacco barns, a tobacco shed, fields and orchards. In 1941, Leonard sold the farm to Alfred H. Smith, who resides there today.⁴

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #78-13

Cf. Notes, Item #8
P. G. Co. Tax Assessments, Federal Direct Tax
Census for P. G. County, 1850-1900, 1828 Road Survey.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 156 acres

Tax Map 90, parcel 167

Quadrangle name Upper Marlboro, Sec. E

Quadrangle scale

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl, Research Historian

organization Historic Preservation Commission

date September 1985

street & number c/o County Planning Division, M-NCPPC
14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive

telephone 952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro,

state MD. 20772

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

#7 Continued

Directly north of the main house is a complex of outbuildings. The largest is a one-story storage building (tenant house?), with shingle siding, and gable roof covered with wooden shake. It is eight bays long, rests on a brick foundation and has a central cupola at the ridge. Directly north of it is a small shed-roofed shed constructed with hand-hewn members; it has hand-split board siding and a corrugated metal roof. Other outbuildings include a ground-level ice house, built into the slope on the east. It has board-and-batten siding, a wooden shake roof, and the apex of its gable roof is decorated with a wooden pendant.

In the valley to the south is a complex of red-roofed dairy buildings: several barns, a silo and several cribs and sheds. In the field just north of the entrance lane is a tobacco barn.

#8 Continued

Blythewood is today one of the most beautiful farms in Prince George's County. Although the house has been altered in several phases, it represents the homestead of four generations of an important Prince George's County family. In the main house and the outbuildings are represented architectural styles from late Georgian and utilitarian/vernacular, through Victorian to neo-classical, and it is a major landmark in the historic and still rural Mellwood area.

Notes

- 1 Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1820's - 1850.
- 2 Ibid 1850 - 1871; Martenet map of Prince George's County, 1861; Estate file #963.
- 3 G.M. Hopkins Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878; Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1888 - 1920.
- 4 Prince George's County Land Records #195:84; #206:215; #621:74.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Blythewood				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Melwood Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
				Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: A. H. Smith				
STREET AND NUMBER: Melwood Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Sites in the Bi-County Region				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: M-NCPPC				
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland	

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	<div>(Check One)</div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
<div>(Check One)</div> <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>The house is a two story, frame building with a five bay main (west) facade. The central entrance has sidelights and a transom light. The windows are 6/6 double hung sash; the surrounds have a roll moulding. A two story porch with square posts and a shed roof has been added across the front. The roof is a low-pitched gable. Large, square chimneys rise between the first and second bays from either end.</p> <p>On the south end there is a porch addition with arched openings with louvered fanlights. On the north end the kitchen has been connected to the house by an addition; the facade is now four bays with 6/6 double hung sash windows and scalloped bargeboards. This wing has a small central chimney for a stove flue.</p> <p>North of the house is an icehouse with board-and-batten gable ends. There is also a lean-to roofed wood shed sheathed with ship lap siding. The "necessary" is behind the wood shed; it has board and batten sheathing.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		0 0 0	0 0 0	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

10 Oct 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

R-A

LEE F. SUIT
597/43
152.19 A
P. 42

● PG 78-13

ALFRED H. SMITH
619-167
156 A.
P. 167

MAP 90 - P. 167

ALFRED H. SMITH
619-161
7.81 A.
P. 16

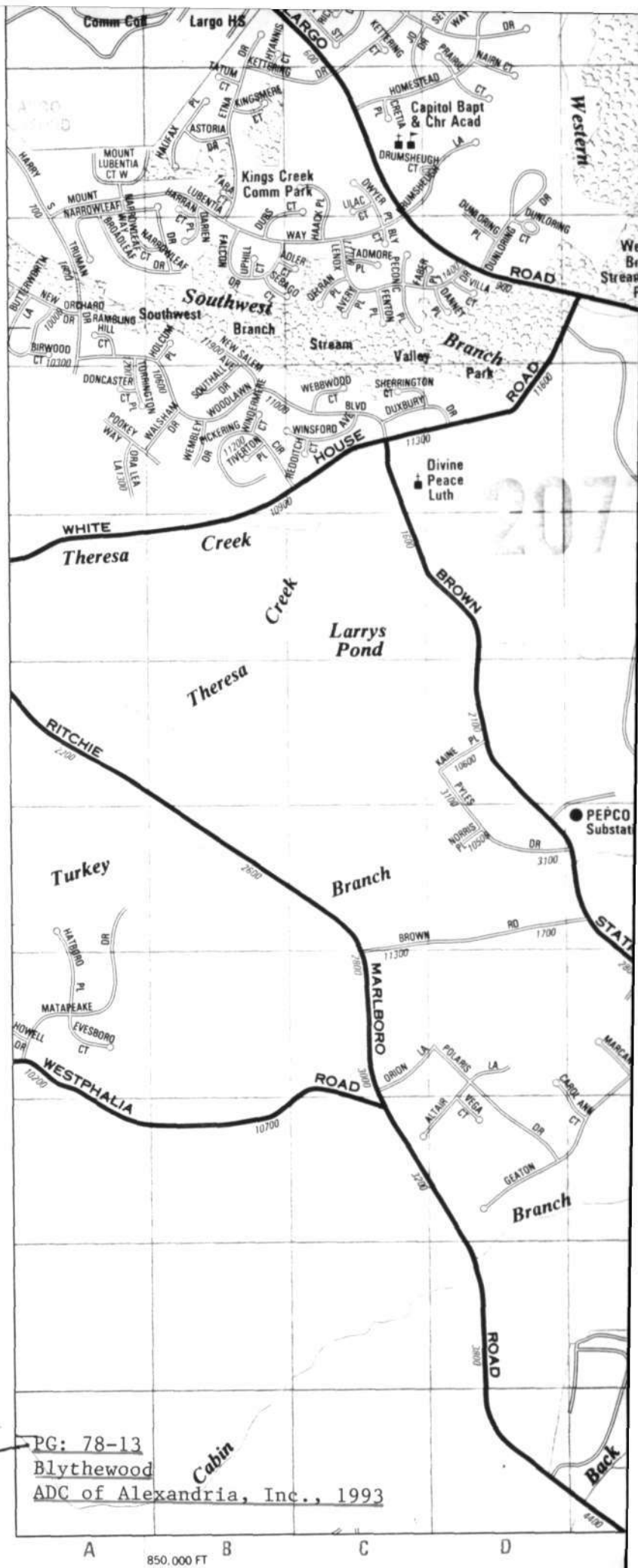
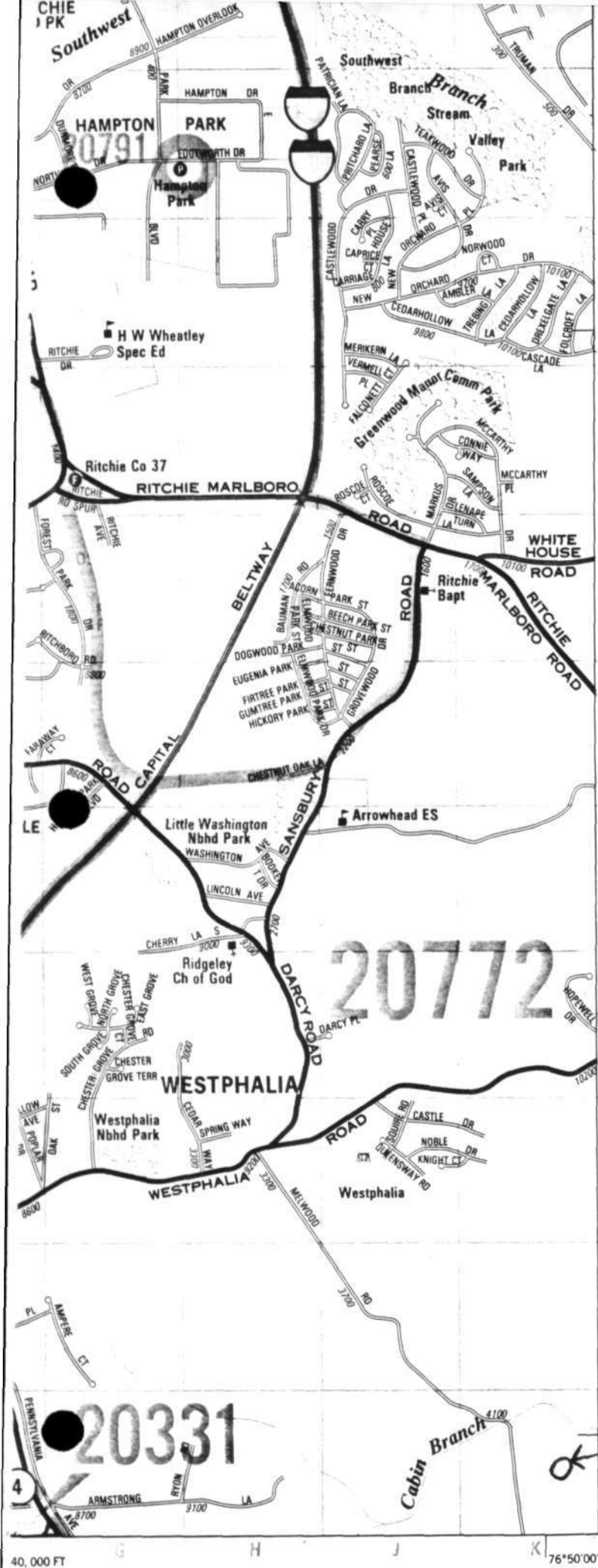
R-A

MELWOOD

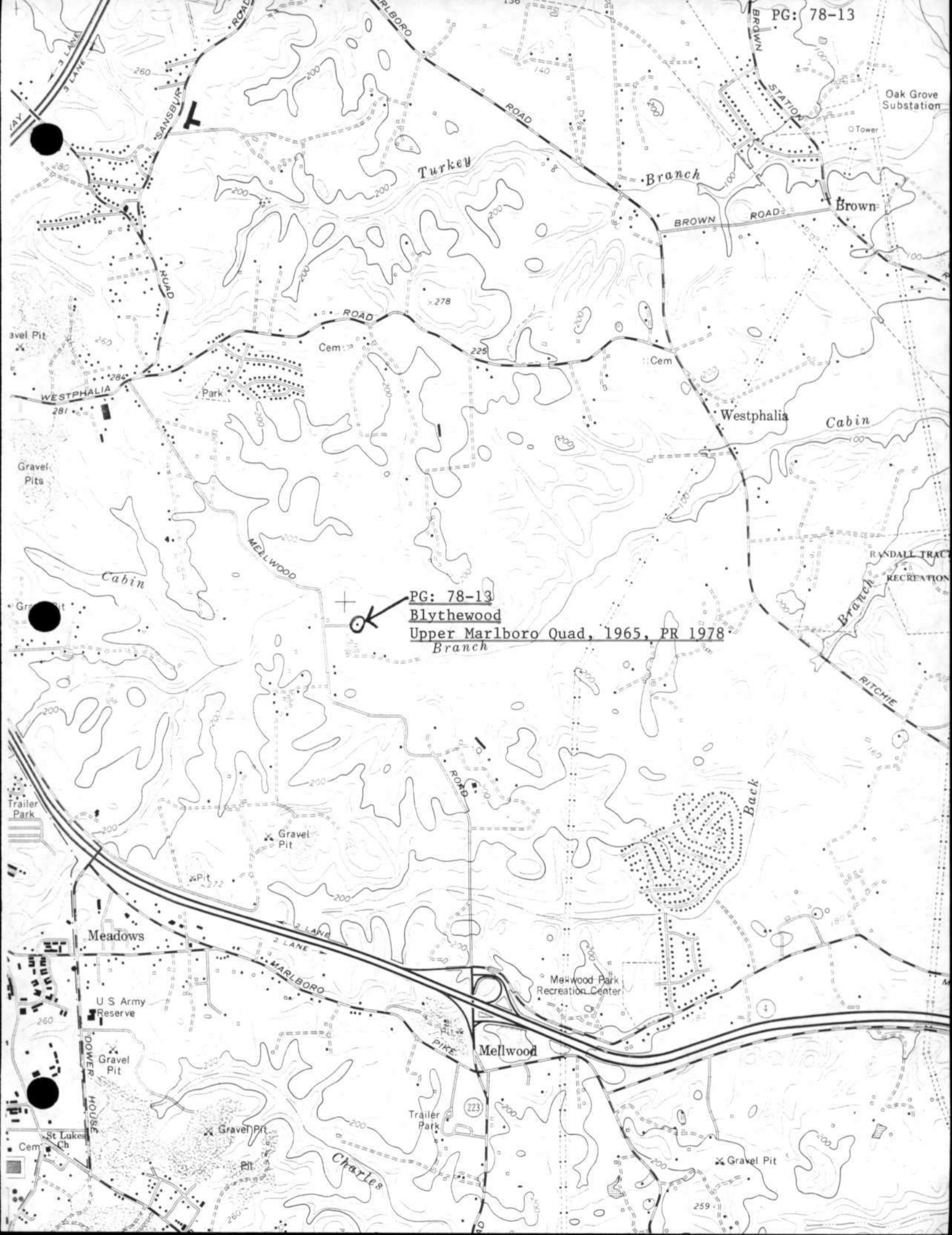
RONE

RD.

NOTE — Figures on Roads are distances in Rods from junction to junction.



PG: 78-13
 Blythewood
 ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1993



PG: 78-13
Blythewood
Upper Marlboro Quad, 1965, PR 1978
Branch



NAME BLYTHEWOOD

P6: 78-13

LOCATION MELLWOOD Rd, UPPER MARLBORO, Md.

FACADE SW

PHOTO TAKEN 10/10/74 M DWYER



NAME BLYTHEWOOD

PG: 78-13

LOCATION MELLWOOD RD MELLWOOD, P.G. Co. Md

FACADE NE

PHOTO TAKEN 10/10/74 MDWYER



NAME BLYTHE WOOD - TENANT HOUSE

PG: 78-13

LOCATION MELLWOOD RD MELLWOOD, P.G. Co. Md.

FACADE LOOKING SE

PHOTO TAKEN 10/10/74 MDWYER



NAME CABIN BRANCH VALLEY - MOORE ROAD PG:78-13

LOCATION W OF MELLWOOD Rd MELLWOOD, PG Co, Md

FACADE LOOKING N FROM MOORE Rd

PHOTO TAKEN 10/10/74 MDWYER



P.G. #78-13

Blythewood
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1985
Southwest 3/4 elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

West elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

Northwest 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #78-13

Blythewood
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1985
East elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #78-13

Blythewood
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1985
South elevation
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #78-13

Blythewood

Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

April 1985

Icehouse, west elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G. #78-13

Blythewood
Prince George's County, MD.
Susan G. Pearl
April 1985
Outbuildings, from southwest
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.